GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:390
ANSWERED ON:17.11.2016
Shortage of Officials in Panchayats
Gawali (Patil) Ms. Bhavana

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is shortage of officers/employees at Panchayat, Block Samiti and Zila Parishad level in States including Uttar Pradesh;
(b) if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise;
(c) whether there is shortage of basic infrastructure like office, computerisation of Panchayats and training of various representatives/ officers of Panchayati Raj to meet the needs of all Gram Panchayats; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated and utilised during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. As per the information received from States/UTs, there is a shortage of staff, basic infrastructure viz office buildings and computers at each level of Panchayats; and there exist gaps in the capacities of elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayats in most of the States/UTs including Uttar Pradesh to be able to discharge their functions properly. 'Panchayat' being a State subject, the primary responsibility for providing such facilities vests with the States. The details of officers/employees and infrastructure in Panchayats are not maintained by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been augmenting the efforts of the States under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan [erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA)] scheme. The financial and technical support has been provided to States for strengthening Panchayats including for administrative and technical support, construction and maintenance of Gram Panchayat buildings, computers and training and capacity building of various stakeholders of Panchayats. With effect from the financial year 2015-16, the support for administrative and technical items, construction and maintenance of Gram Panchayat buildings, and computers has been discontinued.

The funds were also provided under district component of the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF) for supplementing and converging existing developmental inflows into identified backward districts so as to bridge critical gaps in local infrastructure and other development requirements. With effect from the financial year 2015-16, the BRGF has been delinked from the budgetary support of the Central Government.

The details of funds released and utilised by States/ UTs are given at Annexe I and II.

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